

Message Text

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SUBJECT: FOURTH SESSION, U.S.-POLISH JOINT TRADE COMMISSION

REF: A) WARSAW 4415; B) STATE 175786

1. SUMMARY. THE POLISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND MARITIME ECONOMY RECEIVED THE U.S. PROPOSED AGENDA WITH MIXED FEELINGS. THE MINISTRY NOTED THAT SEVERAL ITEMS SUGGESTED BY THE POLISH SIDE (REF A) HAD BEEN OMITTED FROM THE U.S. AGENDA, AND IT WONDERED WHETHER THE U.S. SIDE ACCEPTS THE POLISH VIEW OF THE FOURTH SESSION AS AN OCCASION TO PREPARE ECONOMIC ISSUES FOR RESOLUTION IN OCTOBER. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED U.S. PROPOSED AGENDA AS RECEIVED REF B WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND MARITIME ECONOMY OFFICIALS RUCINSKI, STREBSKI, AND DZIEKONSKI ON AUGUST 16. RUCINSKI NOTED THAT SEVERAL ITEMS PROPOSED BY POLES (REF A) WERE OMITTED FROM U.S. LIST. HE NAMED SPECIFICALLY THE FOLLOWING:

A) AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN RESEARCH ON MINING AND ENERGY (MINISTRY OF MINING-DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR);

B) JOINT FUNDING OF COOPERATIVE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS;

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C) CIVIL AVIATION (LANDING RIGHTS IN CHICAGO FOR POLISH AIRLINES LOT);

D) AGREEMENT ON PACIFIC FISHERIES.

RUCINSKI INQUIRED WHETHER THE OMISSION OF THESE ITEMS FROM THE U.S. PROPOSED AGENDA MEANT THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS DURING TH FOURTH SESSION, OR WHETHER THESE SUBJECTS COULD BE DISCUSSED, EITHER INFORMALLY OR UNDER THE AGENDA ITEM, "ITEMS TO BE RAISED BY POLISH SIDE". RUCINSKI REITERATED THE POLISH VIEW THAT THE FOURTH SESSION TALKS SHOULD BE USED TO PREPARE ALL ECONOMIC ISSUES FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTION IN OCTOBER.

3. IN BUSINESS FACILITIES, RUCINSKI EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE INCLUSION OF THE ITEM ON TRADE IN TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED PRODUCTS. HE ASKED WHAT SUBJECTS MIGHT COME UP IN CONNECTION WITH A DISCUSSION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES, AND HE NOTED THAT THE POLISH SIDE WOULD ALSO HAVE POINTS TO RAISE ABOUT THE STATUS OF POLISH OFFICES AND EMPLOYEES IN THE UNITED STATES, PARTICULARLY AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR IN NEW YORK.

4. RUCINSKI SAID POLAND WAS CONSIDERING REQUESTING PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH A TRADE OFFICE IN THE SOUTHERN UNITED STATES, PERHAPS IN HOUSTON, AND MIGHT RAISE THIS MATTER IN THE FOURTH SESSION. POLISH THINKING ON THIS QUESTION WAS STILL UNDEVELOPED, HE ADDED, AND HE DID NOT INDICATE WHAT FORM SUCH AN OFFICE MIGHT TAKE.

5. RUCINSKI SAID THE POLISH SIDE WOULD WELCOME CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND POLISH AGENCIES INVOLVED IN TRADE PROMOTION. THE POLISH CHAMBER OF FOREIGN TRADE, HE SAID, WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP A PROGRAM OF LECTURES AND SYMPOSIA IN THE UNITED STATES.

6. TURNING TO THE ITEM ON PL-480 CURRENCY, RUCINSKI ASKED IF THIS MEANT DEBT DEFERRAL. EMBOFF ANSWERED THAT THE ITEM PRESUMABLY COVERED A WIDER RANGE OF ISSUES CONNECTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH THE DEBT THAN THE POLISH REQUEST FOR A ROLLOVER. RUCINSKI SAID DOCUMENTATION ON POLISH CASH PURCHASES OF U.S. MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT WAS NEARLY COMPLETE AND WOULD SHOW CASH PURCHASES IN 1973 OF \$9 MILLION AND IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1974 OF \$11 MILLION: CASH DOWN PAYMENTS AMOUNTED TO ANOTHER \$12.5 MILLION IN 1973 AND \$1.1 MILLION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1974. THE POLISH ESTIMATE FOR CASH PURCHASES IN 1973 AND 1974 IS ABOUT \$30 MILLION, HE SAID.

7. RUCINSKI SAID THE POLES WOULD WELCOME AN OPPORTUNITY AT THE FOURTH SESSION TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH THE U.S. ON MULTILATERAL TRADE ISSUES. OF SPECIAL INTEREST IS THE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND THE U.S. POSITION ON POLAND'S REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD IN GATT.

8. THE MFTME EXPECTS TO HAVE A DRAFT STATEMENT ON INDUSTRIAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION PREPARED FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE EMBASSY ON AUGUST 22.

9. RUCINSKI SAID IT HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED WHETHER VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ROMUALD SPASOWSKI, WHO EXPECTS TO TRAVEL TO THE UNITED STATES THE FIRST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER, WILL BE A MEMBER OF THE OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO THE FOURTH SESSION.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR RESPONDING TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED BY RUCINSKI IN PARA 2. WE PARTICULARLY NEED TO KNOW THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION TO THE POLISH VIEW OF THE FOURTH SESSION AS ESSENTIALLY PREPARATORY IN NATURE. IF SUCH ITEMS AS THE COOPERATIVE SCIENCE PROGRAMS, CIVIL AVIATION, AND PACIFIC FISHERIES ARE NOT TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE FOURTH SESSION, WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS IN OCTOBER TO PROPOSE AN ALTERNATE FORUM IN WHICH THESE SUBJECTS, PARTICULARLY THE SCIENCE ISSUES, CAN BE COVERED.
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